

FIFTY-FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR 1952.

GUERNSEY:

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Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1952.

Lukis House, Grange, Guernsey, 8th June, 1953.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my eighteenth annual report for the year 1952 as States Medical Officer of Health.

The population according to the Census of April, 1951 was 43,547; the estimate made from identity cards was too high.

There was little infectious disease in 1952 and there were no cases of diphtheria.

The death rate from all forms of Tuberculosis again fell, and the rate for Pulmonary Tuberculosis fell to the very low rate of 0.21 per 1,000. The number of deaths was 9 for a population of 43,000 as compared with 34 deaths in 1948 for approximately the same population. In 1945 there were 12 deaths for a population of 25,000.

Both the birth rate and the death rate were slightly lower than in 1951.

The infant mortality rate was much higher than in 1951, due principally to an increase in deaths due to premature birth.

Important extensions to the drains in the Castel have been made: the septic tanks taking sewage from the King Edward Sanatorium, the Children's Home and the Castel Hospital have been closed and a proper and safe system of drainage is now available for a thickly populated area which includes several new housing estates.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

ROWAN REVELL, M.D.,

Medical Officer of Health.

The President and Members,
Board of Health,
Guernsey.

STATISTICS.

TABLE I.

Suns	hine.							
	Total for 1952	•••	•••		•••		•••	1899.9 hours
	Average for 50 years	•••	•••	•••	•••		•••	1874.1 hours
	Sunless days for 1952	•••	•••	• • •	•••	•••		50
	Average for 50 years	•••		•••	•••	•••	•••	55
Rain	fall.							
	Total for 1952	•••	•••					39.28 inches
	Average for 50 years	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	36.69 inches
	Wet days for 1952	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	191
	Average for 50 years		•••	•••	•••			194
Tem_i	perature.					V		•
	Daily Mean Temperature	1952	•••	•••		•••	•••	50.6ºF.
	Average for 50 years	•••	•••	•••	•••			51.40
	Mean daily range for 1952	•••		•••		•••	•••	9.20
	Average daily range for 50	years	•••		• • •	•••	•••	9.00

TABLE II

			DITO		20, 20, 1	110	DELEGATO					
	Estimated population	BIR			DEAT Crude		Uı	ATHS ider year				
YEAR	to middle of each vear	No.	Rate per 1,000	No.	Rate per 1,000	Adjusted rate per 1,000	No.	Rate per 1,000 Births				
1936	41,950	708	16.9	545	12.9	9.0	42	59-3				
1937	42,410	827	19.5	575	13.6	9.5	45	53.2				
1938	43,015	851	19.8	524	12.2	8.5	37	43.4				
1939	43,820	744	16.9	559	12.7	8.9	33	44.3				
1940			0.6									
Jan./June	43,000	400	18.6	334	14.0	Starrageryne	21	52.5				
July/Dec.	23,976	168	14.0	179	14.8	_	6	35.7				
1941	23,901	243	10.1	398	16.6		5	20.5				
1942	23,561	262	11.1	525	22.3	_	10	38.1				
1943	22,641	337	14.9	414	18.3	Sherraneed	16	47.5				
1944	22,408	395	17.6	472	21.1	_	17	43.0				
1945	25,500	391	15.3	436	17.1	Marrier	ΙΙ	28.1				
1946	38,038	872	22.9	431	11.3	7.9	35	40.1				
1947	40,674	900	22.2	419	10.3	7.2	30	33.3				
1948	43,179	870	20.2	445	10.4	7.3	17	19.5				
1949	44,374	795	17.9	495	1.11	7.7	20	25.1				
1950	44,792	746	16.6	480	10.7	7.4	22	29.5				
1951	44,498	775	17.4	510	11.4	8.0	ΙΙ	14.2				
1952	43,367	736	16.9	464	10.7	7.5	24	32.6				

POPULATION

The mid-year population was estimated at 43,367. The population in April, 1951, at the time of the Census was 43,547.

BIRTHS

There were 736 live births, males 352, females 384, a rate of 16.9 per 1,000. Still-births numbered 16, a rate of 21.7 per 1,000 live births; illegitimate births were 40, a percentage of 5.4 of total live births.

DEATHS '

There were 464 deaths, males 238, females 226, a crude rate of 10.7 per 1,000; adjusted death rate 7.5.

MATERNAL MORTALITY

There were no deaths from prolonged labour. Under the Midwives Ordinance, 1950, medical aid was sought in one hundred and nineteen cases.

Fees to medical practitioners—£278 158. 3d.

INFANTILE MORTALITY

There were 24 deaths under one year of age, giving a rate of 32.6 per 1,000 live births; 15 of these deaths were under one month, a rate of 20.3 per 1,000.

MARRIAGES

There were 327 marriages, a rate of 7.5 per 1,000.

CANCER

There were 91 deaths from Cancer, 49 males, 42 females, giving a rate of 2.1 per 1,000.

TUBERCULOSIS

There were 11 deaths from Tuberculosis, 9 pulmonary (4 male, 5 female) 2 non-pulmonary (1 male, 1 female, 1 meningitis) giving rates of 0.25. 0.21 and 0.04 per 1,000 respectively. The attendances at the Chest Clinic were as follows:—

New cases Tuberculosis		• • •	•••		22
New cases not Tuberculosis		•••	•••		
Attendances of old cases	• • •				545
X-Rays taken	•••	•••	• • •	•••	1,389
Cases sent to England for spec	cial su	rgical	treatn	nent	11
Cases in King Edward Sanato	rium				39

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

There were little notifiable diseases during the year; notifications were as follows:—

Pulmonary Tube	ercul	osis	• • •			• • • •	27
T.B. Meningitis			•••	•••		•••	2
Scarlet Fever		• • •	•••			•••	17
Diphtheria						• • •	I
Scabies			***			* * *	7
Typhoid			•••		• • •		I

656 children were inoculated, 298 re-inoculated against Diphtheria.

The following cases were admitted to the King Edward Sanatorium:—

								Deaths
	Septic Throa	t		•••			I	_
	Erysipelas		•••	•••	• • •		I	_
	Measles and	Pneun	nonia	•••		• • •	I	_
	Miliary Tub	erculos	sis				I	I
	Paratyphoid		•••				I	_
5	Tetanus			•••		•••	I	_
	Tuberculosis		•••	•••	•••		39	4
	Whooping C	ough a	and Me	easles	• • •		2	_
							_	_
					Τ	otal	47	5
							_	

SANITATION

Extensive sanitary work has been carried out in the Island during the year. The laying of sewers in the Castel was begun, and the septic tanks used for the sewage from the Castel Hospital, King Edward Sanatorium, and the Children's Home are no longer in use.

WATER SUPPLIES

The States Water Supply was generally satisfactory but here again extensions as soon as possible are necessary.

MILK SUPPLIES

Very large numbers of samples have been taken and inspections made; the improvement in the cleanliness of milk supplies has been maintained. All milk passed through the States Dairy is now pasteurised.

HOUSING

The extreme shortage of houses continues, and in spite of a large building programme, is likely to continue for many years. Difficulties in satisfying the need for houses are greatly increased by continually rising costs.

SELECTED GUERNSEY HEALTH STATISTICS

Year	Info	ant Mortality.	Neonatal Deaths.	Still Births. Rate per	Pulmonary Tuberculosis.
		Rate per 1,000 Live births	Rate per 1,000 Live births	1,000 Live births	Rate per 1,000
1938		43.4		37.6	0.35
1939		44.3	_	43.2	0.62
1940		46.4	-	28.5	0.59
1941		20.5	- ,	20.8	1.0
1942		38.1	_	30.7	0.91
1943		47.5	_	15.1	0.90
1944		43.0	_	20.2	1.2
1945		28.1	_	23.0	0.47
1946		40.I	-	21.7	0.45
1947		33.3	-	18.9	0.54
1948		19.5	12.5	24.2	0.79
1949		25.1	17.6	23.9	0.61
1950		29.5	22.6	20.1	0.42
1951		14.2	9.0	14.2	0.27
1952		32.6	20.3	21.7	0.21

INFANT WELFARE

HEALTH VISITORS' REPORTS

	Country	St.	Peter Port
Primary or 1st Visits	293	,	72
o-1 year or under 1 year	907		187
1-5 years or over 1 year	210		443
Cleanliness, neglect, etc.	14		2
Visits with Sanitary Inspector	4		3
Ante Natal Visits	—		5
T.B. Visits	2		_
Mental Health Visits	2		—
Ineffectual/no reply	78		65
Diphtheria Immunisation			14
Foster Children	_		10

(Signed)

M. GRAHAM, s.r.n., s.c.m., h.v.

M. D. PREVOT, S.R.N., S.C.M., R.F.N., H.V., A.R. SAN, I,

VENEREAL DISEASES CLINIC, 1953.	Mulas	Eamulas
(1) Number of persons who on 1st January, 1952, were under treatment for:—	<i>wates</i>	Females
Syphilis	23	5
Gonorrhea	6	
Non-specific or non-venereal conditions	13	8
(2) Number of persons previously removed from register who returned for treatment due to re-infection	_	_
(3) Number of fresh infections during the year:—		
· Syphilis contracted locally		5
Syphilis contracted outside the island	2	_
Syphilis congenital		_
Gonorrhea contracted locally	2	_
Gonorrhea contracted outside the island	9	_
Non-specific or non-venereal conditions contracted		
locally	3	8
Non-specific or non-venereal conditions contracted out-		
side the island	18	—
(4) Number of persons remaining under treatment on 31st December, 1952:—		
Syphilis	5	10
Gonorrhea	3	_
Non-specific or non-venereal	4	6
(5) Total attendances of all persons at Clinic during the year	487	164
(6) Cases discharged during 1952:—		
Syphilis	20	5
Gonorrhea	14	_
Non-specific	30	5

V.D. CLINIC MALE SECTION

It is gratifying to note that out of thirty-four new cases dealt with in 1952 only five were contracted in Guernsey.

The majority of infections were non-specific. There are no special observations to make on the male section during the year.

J. E. T. STRICKLAND,

Medical Officer in Charge, Male Section V.D. Clinic.

V.D. CLINIC FEMALE SECTION

This year there was a marked absence of Gonorrhea in women, possibly, as stated in the report for men, that there was no known Gonorrhea infection in the Island.

This is a very satisfactory state of affairs from a Public Health point of view.

W. R. CAMBRIDGE,

Medical Officer in Charge, Female Section V.D. Clinic.

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	CAUSE GROUPS	MALE	€	~	-	The second secon	YEARS			75 and Over	Total
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. 4	45 Malignant neoplasm of oesophagus	:	1	1	1		1	-	ω r	l n	ر ان
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₹ <	47 Malignant neoplasm of rectiling	: :	1	[1	1	1	1	1	1	1
₹ 4	40 Malignant neoplasm of trachea and bronchus and lung	Ξ						Ć		ı	•
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CAUSE GROUPS			Prim	92 Acute bronchitis	93 bronchius, chronic and unqualmed	97 All other respiratory diseases	103 Intestinal obstruction and hernia	104 Gastro enteritis and colitis	107 Other diseases of digestive system	114 Diseases of genito-urinary system	Cong	129 All other congenital malformations	III de	136 Senility without mention of psychosis	III de	AF, 128 Motor vehicle accidents	A 11	AE 147 All Other accidental causes
			16	92	93	97	103	104	LOI	114	128	129	135	136	137	H. 138	יי טייי יייי	147
			A.	₹ <	4	A <	₹ •	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	<u> </u>	4

	Total	H 61	п	I I	H I	Total	. 1	11
	11/12	1-1	1 1	1 1	н	21/28	` H	I
	01/6	1-1		1	11	14/21	1	1
	6/8	1.1	1 1	1		7/14	11	١
MONTHS	2/8	1 1	1 1			DAYS 6/7	1 1	ω
MON	2/9			1 1	1 1	5/6	1 1	1
	2/6	-	"	1 1	1	4/5		64
ITY	4/5	1		"	1	3/4	1 1	1
ORTAI	3/4	1 1	1 1	1 1	1 1	2/3	1 1	I
E MG	2/3	1 1	1 1	н	1.1	1/2	1.1	4
INFANTILE MORTALITY	days to months	— —	н	1 1	"	Under 1 day	н а	n
CAUSE GROUPS	28		A 92 Acute bronchitis A 93 Bronchitis, chronic and unqualified	A 128 Congenital disease of circulatory system	A 137 Ill defined and unknown causes of morbidity and mortality		A 129 Congenital malformations	
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LABORATORY SERVICE

February, 1953.

Board of Health Laboratory Service Annual Report for 1952.

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Total 9,059

This is my Sixth Annual Report on the Board of Health Laboratory Service that commenced in 1947. For that year the total number of examinations carried out was 2,313. For this year the figure is 9,059—a record for any year. The fact that the laboratory has not developed in its size since 1947 has necessitated certain restrictions. One subsidiary medical laboratory test has been abandoned and a routine milk test severely cut in numbers in an effort to deal with other requests. These cuts represent over 800 examinations. This procedure of examination selection is most unsatisfactory; furthermore, several important tests cannot be adopted in our present circumstances. The position was first reported in my 1949 Annual Report. I believe the contribution made by this laboratory to the general health of the whole Island is appreciated by all responsible authorities—but it is now impossible to fulfill all our obligations because of our very poor working conditions, which are responsible also for intermittent periods of chaos in the laboratory.

ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1952

I herewith submit my annual report on the sanitary circumstances of the island for the year 1952.

Each year brings an improvement in environmental hygiene by reason of teaching hygienic methods both to householders and to persons engaged in food trades. Obviously the younger generations take more kindly to advice than the older and it is on these we have to depend to extend a hygiene-minded community of which, in recent years, the nucleus has been created. It is very apparent that until good housing is provided for everyone this ideal will not be perfected but as each block of new houses is completed and occupied so the principles of hygienic living becomes easier for the Public Health Officer to teach and maintain.

Repairs, replacements and general improvements carried out during the year either through formal notice or verbal agreement, have been very satisfactory. Hardship is, from time to time, bound to occur to property owners of limited means and in a good many cases where, say, a small cottage or cottages are part of a person's income, the outlay needed to effect a major repair is not proportionate to the expected income and cannot be recovered by the owner during his or her lifetime. A difficulty which occasionally presents itself is that of life enjoyment of a property whereby a person who enjoys this type of ownership may refuse to effect any repairs on the grounds that they hold only a life enjoyment and the heirs presumptive also refuse on the grounds that they are merely prospective owners. It is hoped that some future legislation may clarify this difficulty.

Court Orders were sought and granted to compulsorily remove four verminous persons to the Town Hospital after being bathed at the Clinic. A further twelve

were given temporary shelter and bathed at the Clinic whilst premises were being disinfested. These cases were dealt with under the Public Health (Vermin) Law, 1948. Finding temporary accommodation to house persons whilst verminous premises are being disinfested is extremely difficult owing to the fact there are so seldom any vacancies at the Town Hospital. It would be extremely helpful if provision could be made to meet emergencies of this nature.

Meat consignments received during the year have been examined and no complaint received as regards cleanliness.

Anthrax amongst bovine animals has accounted for six deaths which is the highest number recorded locally in any one year.

My thanks are again extended to the Inspectors, Health Visitors, Laboratory Staff and office staff for their co-operation during the year.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS (HOUSING)

Requests from Housing Authori	ity fo	or gener	al ins	spections	s				215		
Requests from other sources		• • •	• • •	•••					122		
Routine housing inspections				• • •		•••		• • •	III		
Re-inspections for work in progra	ress	or comp	leted					• • •	463		
Inspections of sanitary defects a	and o	drainage	2						201		
Inspections of water supplies	•••								169		
Drains tested	•••		• • •	•••		•••			54		
Number of houses closed during the year—											
		Р	erma	nent		•••			25		
		T	Temporary								
T C . 11' 1 '11'			-	•					4		
Inspections of public buildings		• • •			• • •				5		
Inspections of public buildings Inspections of schools	• • •		•••		•••				•		
									5		
Inspections of schools			•••		•••	•••	•••	•••	5 29		
Inspections of schools Inspections of Caravan sites		•••	•••	•••	•••				5 29		
Inspections of schools Inspections of Caravan sites Inspections of Camp sites	 shop	 s							5 29 11 42		

FARMS AND MILK.

One thousand six hundred and fifty-one milk samples were taken during the year. The average fat content was 4.5% but it must be pointed out that this figure is chiefly from bulked milk which is a combination of morning and evening milk and low grade milk which is checked from results taken at the States Dairy. 950 visits were made in connection with milk.

SAMPLES ANALYSED DURING 1952

Formal samples	• • •		I
Informal samples			627
Fat and M.B. Test	•••		624
M.B. Test only		• • •	128
Appeal to cow samples	• • •		271

INSPECTIONS

Number of farm inspections			41
Farmers interviewed re unsatisfactory stables, utensi	ls, mil	k	143
Inspections of milk retailers' utensils, etc	• • •	* * *	596
Visits to States Dairy and Road Collection Depots	• • •	•••	83
Farms visited for check samples	• • •		52
Number of herd checks (full herds)		• • •	25
Number of cases of suspect Mastitis found	•••		28

MONTHLY AVERAGE OF FAT AND NON FATTY SOLIDS

Month					Fat	Non Fatty Solids
January			• • •		4.8%	9.00%
February					4.5%	9.30%
March		• • •	• • •		4.2%	8.92%
April	•••	• • •			4.5%	8.93%
May		•••		•••	4.7%	9.21%
June	•••	•••	• • •		4.4%	9.14%
July	•••	•••			4.6%	9.17%
August	•••	•••		•••	4.4%	9.32%
September	r			• • •	4.7%	9.13%
October	• • •	•••	• • •	•••	4.6%	9.11%
November	r				4.6%	9.05%
December	•		•••		4.5%	9.00%
Average	e Fat C	Conten	ts for 1	the year	,	4.5%
Average	e Non	Fatty	Solids	for the year	•••	9.00%
Percenta	age of	unsat	isfacto	ry milk i.e.	failed test	10%

ENGLISH MILK

Number of samples		106
Average Fat Content		3.4%
Average Non Fatty Solids	•••	8.60%

FOODS OTHER THAN MILK

... ... 136

33

15

Inspections of food unfit for human consumption ... ' ...

Inspections of food premises (including proposed premises)

Inspection of bakehouses

inspection of bakenouses								
Inspections of fried fish and chip sh	ops 39							
Inspections of cafés and restaurants	53							
Inspections of markets	35							
Inspections of meat consignments	37							
Food examined and condemned as u	nfit for human consumption:—							
Animal Food, 11 tins.	Marmalade, 17 tins.							
Bacon, 12 cwts. 2 qrs. 6 lbs. 7 ozs.	Meats (tinned), 55 hams, 687 tins.							
Baked Beans, 113 tins.	Meats (loose), 522 lbs. 3 ozs.							
Barley Crystals, 5 tins.	Melons, 24.							
Black Treacle, 1 tin.	Milks, $7\frac{1}{2}$ gallons, 37 dozen, 8 tins.							
Cake and cake mixture, 135 cakes, 32 doz. and 3 pkts.	Mincemeat, 2 tins. Mustard, 2 tins.							
Cereals, 858 packets.	Nuts, 39 dozen packets.							
Cheese, 31 lbs., 43 doz. and 7 boxes and								
62 cartons.	Pastes, 175 tins.							
Cheese, 135 packets.	Pate de Fois, 49 tins.							
Chicken Cutlets, 53.	Pickles, 12 jars, 5 bottles and 1 tin.							
Chocolate Powder, 190 tins.	Puddings, 7 tins.							
Coconut Drops, 1 cwt.	Poultry, 2 fowls, 78 geese.							
Coconut Flour, 17 packets.	Quaker Oats, 1 packet.							
Cornish Pasties, 6 tins.	Rabbits, 4 tins.							
Cream, 176 tins.	Ryvita, 2 packets.							
Eggs, 37 doz. and 4, 4 tins.	Salad Cream, 54 dozen and 1 bottle.							
Fish, 5 jars, 3 cwt. 2 qrs. 4 lbs., 152 tins.	Sandwich Spread, 96 jars.							
Flour, 1 sack, 40 bags.	Sauces, 1 bottle.							
Fruits, 4 trays, 4 cases, 44 jars, 36 lb. and	Semolina, 1 packet.							
3,802 tins.	Soup, 106 tins.							
Fruit Juice, 6 tins.	Spaghetti, 85 tins.							
Galden Service a tip	Stuffing, 1 packet.							
Golden Syrup, 1 tin.	Swiss Rolls, 155.							
Jam, 22 jars, 15 tins.	Tea, 137 lbs.							
Lemonade Powder, 4 tins. Lime Juice Cordial, 17 bottles.	Vegetables, 353 tins.							
Eline Juice Cordial, 17 bottles.	Vegetables, 6 crates, 6 nets.							
Food analysed during the year:—								
Bread 3	Meat Canned I							
Cream 1								
Grapefruit Segements 1	Sausage Meat 5							
Industrial Spirit 1								
Jam 5	Water 2							
Owing to the retirement of Mr. A.	Littlewood, former States Analyist, and							

later to the outbreak of Foot and Mouth disease, on which the Food Inspector was

engaged, fewer samples have been submitted for analysis than in other years. It is hoped to carry out a fuller programme during 1953. Mr. L. Billington has been appointed as States Analyst and will doubtless accord the same co-operation as his predecessor.

ICE CREAM

Five applications to register as ice cream and ice lollies manufacturers were made and granted during 1952. The percentage of grades 1 and 2 were satisfactory.

ICE CREAM SAMPLES, 1952

Number of visits to ice cream manufacturers	•••	 • • •	• • •	52
Total number of samples taken		 	• • •	83
Number of imported ice cream samples taken		 		41

LOCAL ICE CREAM

Grade	No. of samples	Percentage
I	25	60%
2	10	23%
3	4	10%
4	3	7%

IMPORTED ICE CREAMS

Grade	No. of samples	Percentage
I	17	41%
2	20	49%
3	4	10%
4		_

D -4 - :7 - ...

	ilers id cturers des		Retail onl Grade	у				
	I	2	3	4	I	2	3	4
I	1	3	I	I			_	<u>.</u>
2	5	_	_	I	—	-	_	_
3	I		_	_	_	_	—	_
4	3	3	1	—		—	—	_
5	6	I	I	I	7	2	I	_
6	2	I	_	_	—	_	_	—
Total	18	8	3	3 = 32	7	2	I	— = 10
Percentage	56%	_o 25	% 9%	 % 9%	70%	20%	10%	/ o

IMPORTED SAMPLES

No.		Grades						
	1	2	3	4				
(7)	8	12	4					
(8)	I	5	_	_				
(9)	8	3						
Total	17	20	4					

Percentage 41% 49% 10%

WATER SUPPLY

No shortage of piped water from the States Water Board mains occurred during the year in spite of the very heavy demands made on the supply. The number and source of samples taken is given below—

Weekly samp	les f	rom St	ates	Water	mains	• • •	• • •	637
Private wells		•••	• • •		• • •	•••	• • •	54
Schools		• • • •	• • •		• • •	• • •	• • •	55
Camp sites					•••			2
Public pumps	s and	founta	ains	• • •		• • •		4
Herm Island	•••	•••		•••				8
				То	tal	•••		760

A number of wells have been found to be grossly polluted and where States mains exist this supply has been connected. As I have remarked in previous reports until mains supply is island wide the position regarding wholesome domestic supplies will remain unsatisfactory.

REFUSE DISPOSAL

There has been no change in the arrangements made for the disposal of household refuse—Le Catelin Quarry during the summer and Vazon during the winter. From observations made at the end of 1952 it is almost certain that the area covered by water at Vazon will be filled by the end of March, 1953.

A scheme to bulldoze Le Catelin and alter the present unsatisfactory system of tipping was submitted to the Vale Constables by the Acting Medical Officer of Health and an agreement made that the matter would be thoroughly discussed by the Constables and Douzaine at the end of the 1952 tipping season. Due to a prevalance of North East winds the smell from this burning tip has been most objectionable during the summer months and the many complaints received have undoubtedly been justified.

Inspections	made	at	official du	ımps	• • •	•••	 36
Inspections	made	at	unofficial	dumps			 7

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Inspections made (1	not in	cluded	in ho	using)	•••	•••	26
	DISI	NFECT	ΓΙΟΝS	5			
Princess Elizabeth	Hospi	tal	•••	•••		• • •	7
Town Hospital	•••		•••				I
Maternity Hospital	• • •		• • • •				2
Mental Hospital				• • •	•••		I
King Edward Sanat							
ARTICLES STOVED	AT	KING	EDW	ARD	SANA	TOR	IUM
Princess Elizabeth	Hospi	tal				I,	330
Town Hospital							
Mental Hospital		• • •	• • •				22

VERMINOUS PREMISES

115

262

King Edward Sanatorium ...

St. John Ambulance

Others

Disinfestations carried out	• • •	 	 72
Persons removed for cleansing		 	 16

ANTHRAX

Disinfections were carried out on five farms where Anthrax had occurred. The number of affected animals was six. Samples of animal feeding foods were sent to the laboratory but no B. Anthracis was found.

It will be noted that in the two preceding years two cases of Anthrax had been notified and relying on records at my disposal these appear to be the highest figure in any one year. The increase to six would appear comparable to increases reported in Great Britain and these sporadic cases suggest that the infection may be sought in animal foods or artificial fertilizers. Due to the intervention of the war, a report on the subject of Anthrax in bovine animals on which I was engaged was not published; in this report I mentioned that due to finding B. Anthracis in a malignant pustule on the neck of a man employed in a local artificial fertilizer factory, I had examined by cultural and microscopic method, a variety of samples such as Indian hoofs and horns, bone meal, bone flour, horn shaving and wool shoddy and had isolated B. Anthracis in a sample of Indian hoofs and horns. Due to the increased use of artificial fertilizers in recent years, it seems only reasonable to assume that unless a much higher degree of sterilization of hoofs, horns, etc., imported from foreign countries where Anthrax is prevalent the annual number of losses is bound to increase.

ALDERNEY

Three visits were made to this island during the year in connection with farms and food premises. There is nothing outstanding to report under this heading.

HERM ISLAND

In an attempt to improve the water supply by the installation of a small chlorinating plant, pipe lines from the various water sources have been altered and brought to the reservoir where the chlorinator is installed. Eight samples were taken.

A scrious rat infestation was reported by the tenant of Herm during the month of November and after visiting the island with the Rodent Operator it was decided to conduct an extensive campaign against the rodents. The pre-baiting system was used for some days prior to poison baits being used and the results have been most satisfactory but regular visits and baiting must continue to be carried out. I am most grateful to Major and Mr. Philip Wood, also the gamekeeper for their cooperation.

RODENT CONTROL

Small infestations have been reported and dealt with during the year. Three only of any magnitude have been dealt with, viz. Bordeaux Quarry, a tip behind the Vale Castle and Le Catelin Quarry. This latter received great publicity in a local newspaper "rats as large as cats" and literally hordes of them! Over a period of twenty-one days "night spotting" was carried out and a total of five rats was counted. Nevertheless extensive pre baiting was carried out with subsequent poison baiting and routine inspection baiting carried out whilst the tip has been closed and I am of opinion that the number of rats in the tip and surrounding area is very small.

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE

On Monday, 19th May, the first outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease was notified at Mr. W. Robin's farm, La Houguette, St. Peter's, where four animals were slaughtered. During the previous fortnight our Inspectors had been preparing equipment and material for this eventuality and within half an hour of the termination of a meeting at the States Office all Inspectors had been contacted and our pumping unit was at the farm and by 3 a.m. the road adjoining the farm and most of the farm buildings sprayed; the whole process including the burning of the cattle was completed by Wednesday, 21st May. Restriction of cattle movement had been effected from the date of notification and continued until 19th June.

A second outbreak was notified on Saturday, 21st June, at Mr. F. Heaume's farm, Les Houards, Forest, and similar action was taken by this department. One of three herds was then affected and on Friday, 27th June, a second outbreak was notified and again on 30th June, when the third herd were infected. A total of fifty-one animals were slaughtered at this farm.

An extensive spraying programme was carried out under instructions from the States Veterinary Surgeon and continued on the affected farm until the end of the

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first week in July. The restriction of cattle movement was finally lifted on 20th July and a total of 571 cattle movements had been carried out by or under the supervision of our inspectors. Very long hours were worked by all concerned and I cannot speak too highly of the Inspectors and the very fine job of work they did.

RODENT CONTROL (Continued)

Properties visited	• • •		• • •	•••	•••	2	,276
Visits made			•••	•••	•••	2	,784
New infestations		•••	•••	• • •	•••	•••	116
Properties cleared	•••	•••		• • ū	•••		205
Properties gassed	•••		• • •	•••	•••		16
Properties pre-baited	1						61

WASPS

Visits made to destroy wasps	95
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